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ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS FOR RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE^{/1}

Summary of the 1936 Annual Narrative Reports of State and County Extension Workers, Including Many Excerpts

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"I believe in the rural youth of America. I believe that we have not only the ability but also the desire and the enthusiasm for improvement. Given the opportunity, the youth of America can and will point the way to a finer and fuller rural life.

"I believe there are things which can be accomplished better together than alone. With a singleness of purpose, counsel of capable leaders, and the enthusiasm of youth, community improvement will become a reality rather than an idle dream.

"I believe in education as a guide in accomplishing these things; not the education found only between the covers of books but education in a larger sense gathered in the classroom of everyday living and learned through trial, experience, and association.

"I believe in sociability as a means of making new friendships, broadening our viewpoints, and improving our character. Through working, learning, and playing together all these goals may be attained."

E. W. Aiton, county agricultural agent, Wright County, Minn.

^{/1} No attempt is made to cite in this circular all references to organizations and programs for rural young people. Only selected extracts showing typical methods employed and results obtained in a number of States are included. All quotations are from 1936 annual narrative reports unless another source is indicated.

DISTRIBUTION: A copy of this circular has been sent to each State extension director; State leader in county agricultural, home demonstration, and 4-H club work; assistant State leader in 4-H club work; specialist in rural sociology; and to each agricultural-college library and experiment-station library.

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A FIELD FOR WORK

Nebraska "It was repeatedly brought out in the County Program Planning conferences that there is an urgent need for more attention to the program for the older young people, that is, between club age and the time when those young people definitely participate in adult projects." /2

West Virginia "The community councils elected from now on will be made up of the regular officers and committees representing the following interests in the community: (1) Farms and business, (2) homes, (3) health, (4) youth, (5) recreation and art, (6) education, (7) religion.

"The principal change in this list is that we have added youth to our list. We feel that the problems with which youth is confronted in our rural communities are of such a nature that they need to be especially considered." /3

New Jersey "A sample study made of young adults in rural districts indicated that although there is a considerable number of young men and women between the ages of 18 and 25 on farms and in rural villages who are without full-time employment, the situation is not so alarming as some socialists would lead us to believe. It is true, however, that this group of young people has grown beyond the influence of such organizations as the Scouts and the 4-H clubs and has not yet become affiliated with older adult organizations. The Extension Service cannot afford to overlook the possibility of developing programs that may serve this important group of our citizens who are at the period when they must reach important decisions that will affect their future welfare." /4

Wisconsin "For as many as 15 years there has been a belief on the part of many people interested in agricultural extension work that young men and women who have gone beyond the age of 4-H club work and have not yet assumed the responsibility of operating a farm and home of their own were not being reached by the Extension Service.

"From the point of view of the young men, the failure of the Extension Service to reach this age group is unfortunate for two reasons: (1) It is the age when they are as a rule in an attitude of mind not only to accept but also to invite suggestions and assistance from educational sources. (2) Once a young man has purchased a farm his opportunities for making changes and major adjustments are circumscribed by definite bounds

/2 R. E. Holland, program planning and information specialist.

/3 A. H. Rapking, rural-sociology specialist, and others.

/4 H. J. Baker, extension director.

whereas, before such an investment is made, the young man has a large range of choice, such as determining in what region he shall start farming, the size and type of farm to operate, whether to rent or purchase, and the type of lease and land contract to enter into." /5

STUDIES OF THE PROBLEMS

Mississippi "For a number of years we have been confronted with the problem of reaching and serving the older boys and girls, from 18 to 25 years of age, who were living on farms, unable to attend college, and poorly equipped for coping with life's problems. However, before attempting to organize these young people and suggest a program for them, we felt that we needed to know: (1) What is their present situation? (2) What are their problems? and (3) What do they want to do about it? Are they interested in trying to better their conditions?

"By special arrangement with the National Youth Administration and the State club office, 3,425 questionnaires were filled out and returned by the 23 counties that participated in the survey project. This work is being supervised by an Assistant, Mr. J. P. Montgomery, selected and directed by us, but whose salary is paid by the State National Youth Administration.

"While this has been a laborious task, I feel that the factual data resulting from this survey will be invaluable to the entire State and the National Extension Service as a guide in setting up programs and getting these rural young people organized for effective work in the future." /6

Studies of the situations, problems, and interests of unmarried rural young people were suggested by the Land-Grant College Committee on Older Youth. /7 Quotations from two of the seven States that cooperated with the Extension Studies and Teaching Section of the Federal office in making these studies give a picture of the method used and results obtained. /8

/5 W. P. Mortenson, and others, dairy-marketing specialists.

/6 James E. Tanner, State boys' club leader.

/7 Committee appointed November 20, 1935; L. R. Simons, director of extension, New York, chairman; Maude E. Wallace, home demonstration leader, Virginia; R. K. Bliss, director of extension, Iowa; F. L. Ballard, vice director of extension, Oregon; Eugene Merritt, extension economist, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

/8 Arkansas, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, Oregon, South Carolina, and Utah. The report of the Connecticut study is given in Extension Service Circular 239 - Situations, problems, and interests of unmarried rural young people 16-25 years of age, by A. J. Brundage and M. C. Wilson, 1936; and the report of the Maryland study in Extension Service Circular 269 - Situations, problems, and interests of unmarried rural young people 16-25 years of age, by Barnard D. Joy and T. B. Manny, 1937.

South Carolina "To secure an accurate State-wide picture of the age group under consideration, samples were taken from one county in each of four of the five major agricultural areas of the State. Two counties were selected in the lower coastal plains area, one county within and one without the tobacco area.

"Within each county, a solid block of territory large enough to yield 100 schedules was selected. In general, this unit consisted of one township.

"Personal interviews were conducted with all unmarried white young men and young women 16 through 25 years of age, in the areas selected." /9

Oregon "As a result of the survey of 410 young men and women in the four counties it was found that only 1 out of 12 of them was at present a member of a 4-H club and that 89.5 percent would like to join a rural youth group.

"89.9 percent preferred a group organization of young men and women.
88.8 percent preferred a group of 50 or less.
90 percent preferred a local meeting place.

"Topics that were of considerable interest to the young folks, listed not in order of their importance but as they appeared on the questionnaire, are as follows:

1. How to choose life work.
2. Personality development.
3. How to get along with people.
4. Music appreciation.
5. Operation and repairs of farm machinery.
6. Homemaking skills and practices.
7. Dances.
8. Athletic activities.
9. Organized trips and camps." /10

Another approach to the needs of older youth and a program to meet these needs was to observe such a program in action. E. N. Shultz, shortly after his appointment as extension assistant in rural young people's work in Iowa, made a trip to observe youth programs in Ontario, Canada, and in several States. Parts of his report on the work done in the province of Ontario are interesting to extension workers in the United States.

/9 Theo. L. Vaughan, rural-organization specialist.

/10 J. R. Beck, rural-service specialist.

Iowa

"Brief History of Work With Young People in Ontario. -

The first junior work was started in 1909 with what was known as the 'School Fair,' and was largely a garden project. The agricultural representatives, who correspond to county agricultural agents in the United States, distributed seeds of various sorts for plots and the students were required to bring in the produce in the early fall and exhibit what they had grown.

"In 1914 short courses were set up for the rural young people, and following this the organizations of Junior Farmers and Junior Institutes took place. (Junior Institute work refers to the work with girls and young women.)

"Boys' and girls' club work has only recently been started in the province and is filling in the gap between the school fairs and the Junior Farmer and Junior Institute work. The work with the juniors divides itself up as follows: Rural school fairs for boys and girls 8 to 13 years of age, boys' and girls' club work for boys and girls 12 to 20 years of age, Junior Farmer and Junior Institute organizations and short courses for young men and women 16 to 26 years of age.

"Rural Young People's Short Courses. - Short courses of 1 month's and 3 months' duration are held during the winter for the young men and women of the province.

"The agricultural representative takes the initiative in setting up the short courses in the counties. A meeting is called of community leaders such as businessmen, farmers, etc., where the short course is explained and the responsibilities of the local community outlined. The local community furnishes the meeting place for the short course and secures the enrollment of the students. The location of the meetings in the county is rotated from year to year and usually a short course is held once every 5 or 10 years in a community. A hall in a small town makes the best place in that it is free from distractions often found in larger towns and cities.

"The county agricultural representative acts as the principal for the short courses. A corps of three to five teachers is necessary but has sometimes been reduced where the services of the county nurse, county doctor, or some other official are available. Members of the staff from the Ontario Agricultural College are routed from short course to short course to handle some of the subject-matter material. The teachers who stay with the short course from beginning to end are hired by the provincial government. These teachers are usually graduates of the Ontario Agricultural College. The men may be farmers who are free to get away during the day to teach the courses. These teachers may be routed from one short course to another in case of the 1-month short course.

"The subjects taught are useful and the students can take the information home and apply it. There are no electives and attendance at the short courses is not made compulsory after the student registers. However, most of the students usually follow all the course materials through even

though they may not be interested in some of the topics. The type of subject matter given varies with the community and the local people have some choice in the work which is offered at the short course. The discussion type of instruction is used with a minimum amount of lecture material. Problems may be given by the instructor for the students to work out. Each Friday afternoon a literary meeting is held. Parliamentary procedure is discussed, reports given on book reviews, and various types of recreation appear on this program. The students often take charge of the opening and closing of the school session and have full charge of the Friday afternoon literary meetings.

"The Junior Farmer and Junior Institute organizations, made up of young men and women from 16 to 26 years of age, developed largely from the short courses, and those interviewed in Canada feel that the short course is particularly essential to keep the Junior Farmer and Junior Institute organizations going.

"The programs are planned by the young people with but very little help from the agricultural representative. The agricultural representatives interviewed stated that they attended an average of one meeting per year. Monthly meetings are usually held. In short courses subject matter is taught that can actually be used, but in the monthly meetings of the Junior Farmers and Junior Institutes broader issues are discussed in a good many instances. The young folks discuss various political issues, study the government, etc.

"Summary of Rural Young People's Work in Canada

1. Approximately 3,500 to 4,000 rural young people of ages 16 to 26 are reached each year through the short courses conducted. This is an effective and inexpensive method of taking the college to the people.
2. The short courses develop the interest in the organization of the Junior Farmers and Junior Institutes.
3. The rural young people's organizations, the Junior Farmers, and Junior Institutes, play an important part in the community having 4,000 members.
4. These organizations carry on their own affairs with but little outside help.
5. The monthly programs are made up largely of discussion, talks, social and recreational activities. The young women in their part of the meeting follow out more of the project discussions than the young men.
6. Activities sponsored by the groups include dramatic competitions, debates, music festivals, judging competitions, 4-H club work, fresh air camps, Santa Claus funds, etc.
7. Training schools are held for the officers by the Department of Agriculture and the Ontario Agricultural College.

8. No definite individual projects are carried on by the members except by those members who are also in club work.

9. The majority of the meeting places are in the country in farm homes or community halls. This keeps out undesirables.

10. No definite age limits seem to be necessary as the shift is made from one group to another naturally, and membership in a 4-H club usually is not dropped by a boy or girl if he or she joins the older group while still of club age. The shift to the adult work also comes naturally, as after marriage the young people soon drop the Junior Farmer and Junior Institute work.

11. Visits to homes of former Junior Farmers showed that information obtained at short courses and monthly meetings is used for better farming and the development of better homes./11

OBJECTIVES OF WORK WITH RURAL YOUTH

Minnesota "1. To provide opportunity for study along the lines of interest to young people. It has been found through actual contact with these young people and through surveys as to the interests of the group, that there are special interests which these young people have and which are not provided in other lines of extension teaching.

2. To provide means of securing information on subjects of their special interests. This differs from the first objective in the type of material presented, its presentation, and the method of attack on the subject. Some topics of this special interest lend themselves to study on the part of the individuals, while others are more fundamental in character and are presented with the objective of giving the young people accurate information rather than any follow-up through study.

3. To develop community consciousness as a group and individual responsibility toward the community through participation in community activities. It has been found that these age groups take little part in the community life and activities either as individuals or as groups. Attempts are being made to provide opportunities for the groups to assume definite parts in community activities.

4. To develop a better farm and home life through an appreciation of farming as a vocation and the home as a center of social and recreational opportunities.

5. To assist individuals in the group in their selection of vocations in agriculture and homemaking. In many cases young people are farming

/11 Earl N. Shultz, extension assistant in charge of rural young people's work

who are better fitted for some other vocation; and while no attempt will be made to assist them in the selection of that other vocation, attempts will be made through the program to assist young people to decide between agriculture and other vocations." /12

Iowa "1. To provide a progressive step from 4-H club work and school work to the adult organizations and cooperatives. 2. To give training in educational, recreational, and service activities which will best fit rural young men and women for places in their community.

3. To develop interest in and leadership for those cooperative efforts which foster helpful thought and friendly relationships among rural people.

4. To encourage active interest in, discussion of, and action on current problems affecting agriculture.

5. To encourage the development of projects and procedures which will help individuals to increase their incomes.

6. To develop friendly cooperative relationships between rural young people in the State through district conferences, summer camps, and leaders' training schools. /13

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Since the early beginnings of extension considerable work has been done with older youth groups by various individual extension workers and groups of extension workers, particularly 4-H club leaders. This method continues in many States but some States are now recognizing the older-youth group as one that needs particular attention and a special program. To meet this situation a variety of administrative arrangements have been made.

In some cases the extension service has been the leader in a broad State attack on the problems of youth.

New York "In cooperation with the New York State Department of Education, the Extension Service has established in four counties, namely: Monroe, Oswego, Madison, and Cortland, demonstrations for the handling of the older rural-youth programs. Two members of the extension administrative staff are devoting a considerable amount of their time to this activity, and wholehearted cooperation has been obtained from the Smith-Hughes teachers, district superintendents of schools, high-school principals, and farm-organization leaders. Surveys

/12 L. A. Churchill, county agent leader; Ruby Christenson and William A. Peters, specialists in rural-youth work.

/13 See footnote 11.

have been made in these counties and the youth has been brought together in organizations. We have established a very definite policy of developing a program based on the needs of these rural youth as expressed by them." /14

Virginia "The extension specialist in rural sociology was elected chairman of a State committee on the coordination of rural youth activities in Virginia at a State youth conference held in Richmond, October 12 and 13. The membership of this committee was as follows: Dr. H. W. McLaughlin, Richmond, representing the rural church; Dr. W. S. Newman, supervisor of vocational agriculture, Richmond, representing vocational agriculture and the Department of Education; Dr. C. R. Brown, dean of Roanoke College, Salem, representing liberal-arts colleges; Miss Florence Stubbs, professor of sociology, Farmville State Teachers' College, representing teachers' colleges; Miss Gypsy Smith (deceased), student, Radford State Teachers' College, representing rural young women and the American Country Life Association; J. Flournoy Blair, Chatham, representing rural young men; G. A. Elcan, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, representing 4-H clubs of Virginia; and Mr. B. L. Hummel." /15

A committee of extension workers has established and supervised the program in other States.

Ohio "Rather than attempt to set up a department which would specialize in the field of youth interests, we have attempted to correlate the contributions of various departments of our staff in planning activities of youth groups. Through committee action, we have enlisted the interest of various specialists in assisting with the programs of these groups. Because of this procedure we have avoided emphasis being placed on organization rather than program. The thought of the committee has been that youth needs a program which will relate itself to the interests and needs and will at the same time train youth to become active in the programs of established organizations in their communities." /16

In other States the club department has been assigned this responsibility and has developed a program adapted to the older group. Some of the names used are: Utopia Clubs (Kentucky), 4-H Youth Extension Clubs (New Hampshire), Junior Adult 4-H Clubs (Arkansas), 4-H Builders (Montana), 4-H Farm and Home Science Clubs (Utah), Rural Life Association (Kansas), Senior Extension Clubs (Pennsylvania), and Older Young People's Groups (Vermont). In some States one member of the club staff gives most of his time to this work (C. W. Jones, Kentucky; S. W. Hoitt, New Hampshire; C. P. Lang, Pennsylvania), while in others the members of the staff share this responsibility.

/14 L. R. Simons, extension director.

/15 B. L. Hummel, rural-sociology specialist.

/16 B. B. Spohn, county agent leader, and others.

Utah "The 4-H club program in Utah has been organized to meet the needs of two groups of rural young people: Those 12 to 15 years, inclusive, and those 16 years of age and older who are not married.

"Projects for the young group have been definitely outlined by the club leaders in cooperation with the subject-matter specialists and interested resident faculty. There are a number of club members who continue their regular 4-H project after they become 16 years of age. This is particularly true of those enrolled in agricultural projects. These older members are encouraged to continue in the regular 4-H projects until they express a desire to enroll in a farm science group.

"Any rural boy or girl 16 years of age or older, not married, who is interested in a program for the development and improvement of self and the community, is eligible for membership in the farm or home science club.

"The home science clubs are usually organized on a project basis. The farm science clubs thus far have not been organized on a project basis. However, each member has been required to enroll with a particular activity in which he is particularly interested. The project must be of sufficient size and importance to challenge his interest and ability in order to successfully complete the project. Each member is free to choose his own project. The program for farm and home science club includes subjects for personal development as well as problems of civic, club, and community interest and development. The program also includes discussion of subjects which are of interest to both young men and young women, as recreation, etiquette, book reviews, dramas, and music appreciation." /17

Other States have specialists that have made separate reports of the work with rural young people (Y. B. Goto, Hawaii; Cleo Fitzsimmons, G. S. Randall, Illinois; E. N. Shultz, Iowa; L. A. Churchill, Ruby Christenson, and W. A. Peters, Minnesota).

Hawaii "A new division known as The Junior Demonstration Project, divided into The Junior Farm and The Junior Home, was started in 1936. It is an attempt to bridge the gap which exists today between the 4-H group and the adults and to create a medium through which the Extension Service may be of greater help to the rural youth in developing rural leaders. Hence Junior Farm Demonstration Work is that portion of extension work devoted to young people in the rural area who are not attending school but are desirous of improving themselves in order to become better rural American citizens." /18

/17 D. P. Murray, State club leader, and assistant.

/18 Y. B. Goto, leader, junior farm demonstration.

RELATIONSHIP TO 4-H CLUBS

Maryland "The relationship which work among the older young people bears to the 4-H club program needs clarification. The 4-H club work now reaches only a limited number of older youth, chiefly those who are willing to act as local leaders of younger groups and a few who are carrying out projects of their own. In the main, these older young people come from the better-than-average farms in their respective localities and, assuming the rural youth survey to be reasonably correct in its findings, represent the least serious problems of adjustment in terms of social obligations, recreation, personality development, occupational choices, and probabilities of entering these occupations in the not distant future. The older young people facing the most difficult adjustment problems are at the same time usually least fitted by schooling and home environment to meet such problems satisfactorily./19

Minnesota "The group decided that it was well to have a committee on membership and eligibility so that new ones joining the club would not be neglecting club work in order to belong to the youth group. The membership and eligibility committee recommended: That any person 16 years of age who wished to belong to the Youth Group if they were already a 4-H club member or had been the previous year, were not eligible for membership unless they continue to carry their club work."/20

New Jersey "We should look upon the rural youth from an optimistic standpoint and not take a defeatist's attitude. We do not need a new organization or a new program in which to meet these young people. We can probably accomplish most by developing our present 4-H club set-up to bring those who are seriously inclined toward leadership into leadership work. Community clubs whereby older boys and girls may meet together regardless of their subject matter interests offers possibilities as the solution for some of the other problems."/21

TYPES OF ORGANIZATION

Although it is difficult to draw lines between the different types of organization, the following classification from the standpoint of program and objectives is helpful in summarizing the work that is being done.

1. Special interest groups -

A program centered around the interest of young people in specific subject matter.

/19 T. B. Manny, specialist in rural sociology.

/20 C. G. Gaylord and assistant, Faribault County agricultural agents.

/21 Howard J. Stelle, Monmouth County club agent.

2. 4-H honor, service, or alumni groups -

A program centered around the common experience of 4-H club membership and including as one of its objectives further development of 4-H work by furnishing incentives and leadership for young boys and girls.

3. Older youth groups -

A program centered in youth with broad objectives designed to furnish youth an avenue for all-round development.

4. Extension assistance to existing youth organizations -

A program centered in existing youth organizations and designed to furnish them with whatever agricultural or home-economics information they may desire.

Special Interest Groups

Special interest groups to deal with particular problems of older youth were one of the earliest developments in youth extension work.

Connecticut "During the past 12 years, as one of our major projects, we have been working with a small group of farmers enrolled in clubs called farm-management or young farmers' clubs. There were 11 active clubs last year with an enrollment of about 200 young men. More than 1,200 young men have completed work in these clubs.

"The members are young men ranging in age from 20 to 35 years. Most of them are managing their own farms; others are associated with their fathers. We do intensive work with each club for a period of 3 years, which we believe is the shortest time possible to establish the members soundly in good business farming.

"In general the method of study starts with their own specific farm problems, and with the older groups the discussion develops into an analysis of the broader social and economic problems. There is a fairly set program for the first-year clubs which covers a detailed analysis of the variations in organization and practices in their communities, and the relation of these variations to net income. An effort is made to determine the most profitable combination of input factors for each type of farm organization. Farm accounts, survey records, and outlook information are used as bases in determining reorganization plans.

"We do not require club members to keep accounts. The importance of keeping accounts is emphasized and a large number of the club members keep records. The accounts on these farms are handled by personal visits, and the same procedure is followed as with our other account-book cooperators."/22

/22 Paul Lee Putnam, farm-management specialist.

Oregon "We have held a 3-day school in Diesel operation for the boys of Tillamook County and for the girls a 1-day session on interior decoration is scheduled for the immediate future." /23

North Dakota "An attempt has been made during the year to organize the young farmers throughout the county. This group includes young men between the ages of 18 and 25 years, inclusive. It was decided that the first meeting of this group should be held at Jamestown, in the form of a farm-machinery school.

"Local implement dealers were helpful to the agent in making arrangements for a place to hold the school and in obtaining required machinery for holding such a school. This was held on February 1, at the McCormick-Deering store in Jamestown. In spite of the fact that roads in many parts of the county were blocked by snow, more than 75 farmers attended this school.

"H. F. McColly, agricultural engineer from the Agricultural College at Fargo, conducted the demonstration, using a plow, a mower, and binder.

"The second meeting of this young farmers' group was a seed school which was held at the City Hall in Jamestown, on March 28. Lars Jensen, State 4-H club agent, and H. E. Rilling, 4-H club leader, were present to conduct the meeting." /24

Nevada "Considerable recreation work has been carried on with older young people in the various communities in the county. The older young people in three communities have had a series of birthday parties for their various members. These affairs offered splendid opportunities for them to plan their programs and to become good leaders, and they will be encouraged to continue them during the coming year. Four of the older young people and leaders attended the recreation training school held in Reno in September. The material received at this meeting has been used at various community meetings throughout the county." /25

4-H Honor, Service, or Alumni Groups

West Virginia "In West Virginia there is the universal problem of knowing what to do with the older 4-H boys and girls. Having been club members for a number of years, they feel the urge for new experiences, for wider fields of endeavor, for a chance to lead, and to cooperate with others for common good. To remain as merely a club member, doing a simple project, is not enough. Either they must be given a realm of greater privileges and responsibilities, or many of them will drop from the roll of club work.

/23 See footnote 10.

/24 R. J. Jordre, Stutsman County agricultural agent.

/25 Lena Hauke, Churchill County home demonstration agent.

"The plan most commonly used is one of organization of an older 4-H club member group. These county groups have adopted various names as: 'Iroquois', 'Torchbearers', 'Ta-Wa-Si', 'Pioneers', 'Builders', 'Senior 4-H Council', 'Kanawaha Tribe.' Some of these groups have been organized for several years, and have proved their effectiveness in service." /26

California "The development of senior 4-H club work is slow but steady. The outstanding senior 4-H club event was the Senior Day at the Berkeley campus of the University of California where about 700 members had an opportunity to meet some of the important members of the faculty, see various departments, and witness the annual U. C. L. A. - California football game. The new feature of 4-H Senior Day was the dinner dance at a local hotel." /27

Maine "York and Somerset Counties' Honor Clubs, whose memberships constitute former and active members who have won county championships, trips to State or National 4-H camps or National 4-H congress, are the only attempts at working with older boys and girls.

"Their activities are mainly social. These groups do, however, assist somewhat with such activities as 4-H county field days, by supervising events, and selling refreshments for the county 4-H fund." /28

Delaware "The Order of Link in the 4-H Chain of Delaware, an organization of older and former 4-H club members, is gradually taking on a definite program. "New Castle County held 10 meetings during the year; sponsored county 4-H record achievement contest; sponsored county 4-H club banquet; sponsored county 4-H achievement program; conducted vesper service at short course; developed and edited New Castle County 4-H club paper." /29

Virginia "The 4-H All Star organization is a State honor organization of older club members who have made outstanding achievements in leadership and project work. The motto of the All Stars is 'Service.' The chapter was organized in Virginia in 1922. The All Star organization provides a means of recognition for leading club members and has stimulated 4-H club members generally to greater effort. It has held high the 4-H club ideals and is rendering a real service to club work throughout the State." /30

Oklahoma "There are approximately 43 active members of the 4-H Alumni Association in Bryan County, which holds four quarterly meetings a year. Since 12 of these alumni members are active 4-H coaches, you can see that this organization is the

/26 C. H. Hartley, State club leader, and others.

/27 Frank Spurrier, and W. G. Waterhouse, assistant State club leaders.

/28 Kenneth C. Lovejoy, State club leader.

/29 A. D. Cobb, State club leader.

/30 Gordon A. Elcan, State boys' club leader.

best booster we have for our 4-H club program in Bryan County. 'Once a 4-H club member always a 4-H member' is our motto."/31

North Carolina "During the past year a great deal of emphasis has been placed upon the 4-H Service Club. This is an organization consisting, in the main, of older 4-H club members who have passed beyond the regulation club age. To this group have been added those people interested in the extension program. As a general rule, these are county-wide organizations. They have rendered great assistance to the county and home demonstration agents by helping with camp programs, achievement day programs, and the general club program of the county."/32

Massachusetts "Eighteen Service Clubs or groups of older club members showed an active or participating enrollment of 628. These Service Clubs have performed a great variety of services, aiding the club agent to carry on in their respective counties as follows:

1. Serving as leaders or assistant leaders of clubs.
2. Securing of members of community committees.
3. Assisting with food sales and lunch counters.
4. Preparing and serving banquets to fifth- and sixth-year club members, to community committees, and to leaders.
5. Raising money for delegates to the National Camp at Washington, to State camps, and to county camps.
6. Buying pins for club members and leaders.
7. Furnishing prizes for fairs, final exhibits, and rallies.
8. Carrying on local exhibits, fairs, rallies, county-wide round-ups, and community meetings.
9. Preparing Christmas toys for hospitals, and baskets of food and fuel for poor people of their own community.
10. Developing community interest in 4-H club work, securing leaders, and helping with community organizations."/33

Michigan "It was with the problem of leadership clearly in mind that the club agent organized the Iron County 4-H Service Club. The aim of this service club is to honor the outstanding 4-H boys and girls and to prepare the older club members for leadership after they have passed the age limit for 4-H membership. The membership in the service club is restricted to about 10 or 12 new members each year who are chosen from the older boys and girls who have been actually engaged in club work during the past year.

"Members of this service club act as local leaders in their respective communities; work up entertainments and educational displays for fairs,

/31 Nina G. Craig, Bryan County home demonstration agent.

/32 L. R. Harrill, State club leader.

/33 George L. Farley, State club leader, and assistants.

achievement days, county club camp, and other 4-H events. They also act as superintendents or assistant superintendents at the fairs." /34

Indiana "The Older 4-H Club is a group of boys and girls who have had 4-H club work, and who are interested in social and educational topics. The original objective of the club was to sponsor 4-H club work, but during the past year they have functioned for a larger purpose. The new constitution and bylaws which were drawn up in July have enlarged the duties of the club until their chief motive now is to give social and educational training to the older youths of the county. Each farm boy or girl in the county is invited to attend and to become a member." /35

Older Youth Groups

Illinois "Young men and young women above 4-H club age, out of school, and not established in business and homemaking for themselves, make up the group for which the Extension Service in agriculture and home economics of the University of Illinois is helping to develop a program.

"No attempt has been made to effect a uniform organization that is recommended for all groups. However, since a number of different States and extension people outside our Illinois staff have considered offering a uniform plan, at the yearly State conference held at the university in September, the question of the desirability of a uniform plan was submitted for discussion to the delegates from county young people's groups.

"This procedure, which permitted young people themselves to make decisions with regard to their programs, is consistent with that which has been followed in the State throughout the period of development of a program for the group. The 36 representatives who were sent by their respective counties to participate in the discussion came to the following conclusions:

1. A uniform name would be desirable. By voting, their preference from among the different names in use in the State was given to 'Rural Youth.' Since that time, this name has been used by the extension specialists in referring to the group. Twenty-two counties have adopted the name.
2. There should be membership delineation so that it would be possible to plan a program to interest a known group. Those favored were:
 - a. Lower limit should be set at graduation from high school.
 - b. No upper limit necessary.

/34 A. G. Kettunen, State club leader.

/35 Forest E. Conder, Grant County agricultural agent.

- c. People who make up the group should come from rural communities.
- d. Program should be planned for unmarried young people.

People who do not fall within the group, but who are interested in the program being carried, are welcome to attend meetings./36

Pennsylvania "It is planned that Senior Extension Clubs shall be made up of members 18 years and up, with no upper age limit. They will be open to married and unmarried young people alike. Groups may be for young men only, for young women only, or combined groups, as the group itself may determine. Suggestions for program plans have been outlined in four main divisions: (a) Social and recreational activities, (b) vocational guidance and individual assistance on the farm and in the home, (c) cultural developments in the field of literature, dramatics, music, art, and nature study, (d) community improvement and community welfare activities."/37

Extension Assistance to Existing Youth Organizations

Indiana "A definite program of activities for older youth was officially announced in December 1935. The announcement emphasized the fact that the Club Division was not setting out to organize an older youth group in every county, but was offering assistance to help existing youth groups broaden and enrich their programs as well as to assist young people who may wish to develop new organizations and programs of activities."/38

Arizona "Work with young people has consisted of a series of leaders' training schools with young people's groups and other miscellaneous groups as follows: One institute for training song leaders; one institute for training leaders in drama; one song festival; five leaders' recreational institutes; one leadership week.

"The institute for training song leaders was carried out in cooperation with the Maricopa Mutual Improvement Association (a church organization), the specialist arranging the cooperation and for Prof. Rollin Pease. Six of these M. I. A. groups were working on the operetta 'And It Rained.' Professor Pease of the University met the leaders of the groups and some of their singers in a school and went over the opera page by page working out with them the interpretation, staging, and so forth."/39

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- /36 Cleo Fitzsimmons and G. S. Randall, specialists in junior club work.
 - /37 A. L. Baker, State club leader, and others.
 - /38 J. H. Skinner, extension director.
 - /39 A. B. Ballantyne, rural-sociology specialist.

COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP

The usual variations in the composition of the youth groups are by sex (one sex or both sexes) and by school and marital status (in school, out of school not married, and married).

The 4-H Honor, Service, or Alumni groups frequently include both in-school and out-of-school young people. Young married people are sometimes members. Although from the standpoint of social situations these three groups are usually recognized as having different interests, they can do effective work together in an organization designed to assist in an activity (4-H work) in which they have a common interest.

Unless the Older Youth Groups are organized on the basis of a special interest such as drama, recreation, or farm management, they are inclined to appeal to one interest group to the exclusion of the others. 4-H club work which is not included in the report enrolls most of its members (93.8 percent) among boys and girls in school. Most of the work with "older youth" has concerned itself largely with those who are out of school and not yet married or established in a business of their own. A few extension workers report work with young married couples.

Arkansas "We have 17 young men and 21 young women enrolled in two Junior Adult 4-H Clubs in Clark County. Over half of this group are married and they seem to take more real interest in the work than the others. The approximate age limit for this group was set at 18 to 25 and 76 percent of them come in this group." /40

Ohio "Still called by the awkward name of the 'Older Young People Group' for want of a more definite name, this consists of a small group of rural young people in the county. All, or most of them are married couples and all are between the ages of 25 and 35.

"The group is small, only 10 couples being included at the present time. The people like to meet together, sometimes enter into serious discussions, and have a lot of very fine recreation.

"The purpose of the organization is to develop the latent leadership in people of this age who are just beginning to find places for themselves in the responsibilities of their communities, but who find that they are still looked upon by older persons as immature youth, not capable of taking full responsibility, and therefore feel somewhat at a loss for an expression of the capabilities they may have." /41

Although studies and the psychological characteristics of young people indicate the desirability of a group including both sexes some groups

/40 Mildred C. Wise, Clark County home demonstration agent.

/41 George W. Kreithler, Meigs County agricultural agent.

are for one sex only, a method of organization traditional in 4-H club and adult extension work.

Tennessee "Young men on the farm who have passed the age for 4-H club work or other activities for boys, but who are not experienced enough to take active part in organizations for well established farmers, may provide congenial associations and interests by organizing Young Farmers' Clubs to be conducted by themselves. Young Farmers' Clubs for men 21 to 25 years of age will bridge the gap between the boy and the settled farmer." /42

South Carolina "The Senior 4-H Club is composed of 15 older girls who have outgrown regular club work and still feel that they are too young to be Home Demonstration Club members. They are so pleased with a club 'all our own' and are very enthusiastic over a special project planned to meet their interests and needs." /43

The more typical situation is also reported by South Carolina. "A joint older youth 4-H club was conducted in Oak Grove community, Greenville County, with 24 young women and 25 young men. This club has been very active holding two meetings a month, except for the two busy summer months, when only one meeting a month was held.

"The plan of meeting used was very satisfactory with this older group. The boys and girls met together for the general program at the beginning of meeting; the boys then go to another room (of the school building) for their instruction period and the girls remain for their demonstration. Later the two groups assemble for recreation. The attendance was fine and the enrollment is gradually increasing." /44

GEOGRAPHICAL UNIT FOR ORGANIZATION

Although 4-H club and adult extension have been organized largely on a community basis and studies of older youth show their preference for the local group, most groups organized by extension workers are county-wide.

Maryland "The organization for older boys and girls has 64 members, is county-wide and meets monthly. Some members live over 30 miles from Cumberland, the most central meeting place. The average attendance is 40. Members are active in assisting agents in community and county-wide activities. Some are 4-H leaders or county chairmen." /45

/42 G. L. Herrington, State boys' club leader, and assistant.

/43 Margaret Martin, Bamberg County home demonstration agent.

/44 Dan Lewis and Leon Clayton, assistant State club agents.

/45 Maude A. Bean, Allegany County home demonstration agent, and Margaret T. Loar, assistant.

That the county-wide youth group tends to attract the leaders among rural youth is brought out by the overlapping membership of a 4-H Honor Group and the Rural Life Association in Sedgwick County, Kans.

Kansas. "A 4-H club organization, county-wide in scope, which the younger 4-H club members of the county look forward to belonging to is the Who's Who 4-H Club. The club holds regular monthly meetings."

"Much has been written and said regarding the problems of our youth between the ages of 20 and 30. To meet the need of this group the Sedgwick County Who's Who assisted in organizing a Rural Life Association in 1935.

"Two of the problems the club had to face the past year were those of membership and attendance. At times it seemed that the Rural Life group and the County Who's Who were competing organizations. Practically every member of the Rural Life Association belonged to the Who's Who and actively participated in its program of work."/46

Vermont "Consideration of the older young people, their interests, activities, and programs, has been confined to groups within counties. The groups should be smaller and localized. Small groups will reduce expenditure of time and money."/47

Indiana "The community is the natural basis for an older youth organization and the most workable sized laboratory, but such an arrangement requires several groups per county and thus involves more leadership than is now available."/48

The development of community groups for older youth is limited by the ability of the agents to assume additional work. Reports of some county workers indicate the possibilities for development.

New York "In addition to the county-wide group that has been meeting regularly each month for the past few years, a new group has been organized in one of the larger communities in the county, Big Flats.

"Six or eight of the young folks from Big Flats had been members of the county-wide group, and with their help the community program was organized. A careful canvass of the situation indicates that there were about 50 young men in Big Flats and about 15 young women."/49

/46 B. C. Kohrs, Sedgwick County club agent.

/47 E. L. Ingalls, State club leader; Martha E. Leighton and Frank C. Essick, assistants.

/48 Z. M. Smith, State club leader.

/49 L. H. Woodward, Chemung County agricultural agent.

Hawaii "Five junior home demonstration clubs with a membership of 71 were organized. The Hanapepe Junior Home Demonstration Club completed its fourth year and the Puhi Club completed its second year." /50

Missouri "The rapid, far-reaching social changes which are now affecting rural conditions are bringing the rural youth face to face with many new and difficult problems. To cope with this situation young adult groups were organized in eight different communities. The number of young people reached through these organizations totaled 177.

"The county council, which cooperates with the extension agents in formulating policies and planning county-wide activities, is composed of the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, and the sponsors of the local organizations.

"Music, dramatics, recreation, and tours was the program selected by the county council for the local organizations to follow during the year. The services of Mrs. A. R. Beach were secured through the W.P.A. project to aid the young people's groups in their programs. She met with each group twice a month and directed their plays and singing. These activities were brought to a satisfactory close on May 26 and 27, with a 2-night achievement program, in which all of the groups participated. /51

/50 Martha L. Eder, Kauai County home demonstration agent.

/51 J. U. Morris and assistant, Pettis County agricultural agents.

PROGRAM PLANNING

Ohio "During all discussions there was a decided evidence that the Youth Council felt keenly the needs of all young people like themselves, but what to do about it, how could others be reached, where were they, how many of them, what did they need, what were they interested in?

"It was decided that some definite planning for activities was necessary. Four committees were appointed to do intensive work, to study the above questions, and recommend procedure.

"The Survey Committee planned a Survey Sheet and used it in two communities.

"The Recreation Committee decided that the great handicap of the work of the group lay in their lack of training in the technique of constructive recreation. They planned a folk-dancing school to meet once a week for 6 weeks with the wife of the county club agent as teacher. Four members attended the State Cooperative Recreation Camp for a week's intensive training and later a young man and a young woman attended the National Cooperative Recreation Camp for 2 weeks' training. Now the county has several young people with a workable knowledge of character building recreation.

"Cooperation. - The Council, as a whole, continues its discussions of cooperation through most of its meetings. It accumulated a small library of reading matter and during the summer months, as a matter of interest and education, went through all the steps necessary to organize a buying club.

"The Committee on Discussion and Discussion Leadership did not function. They realized their lack of knowledge and need of training, but nothing definite was done in the way of training in technique. This committee did, however, recommend the outlines for proposed projects for youth groups." /52

Pennsylvania "To aid in formulating the program for a Senior Extension Club, each individual fills in a questionnaire in the organization meeting, checking opposite a list of suggested activities the degree of interest which he has in those suggested items. These questionnaires are then summarized and are used by a program committee made up of members of the group in determining which items shall be used in the program and which omitted." /53

Illinois "On November 18, Miss Fitzsimmons, State specialist in rural young people's activities, met with the program planning committee of the Richland County group and assisted them in planning the program for meetings for the coming 6 months. These programs are planned in such a way that practically every member of the organization will have some part in directing one of the programs during

/52 Amy Parker, Ashtabula County home demonstration agent.

/53 See footnote 37.

the 6-month period. New people are in charge of the recreation each month, a different person is placed in charge of getting special numbers for each program and other members are selected to read a summary of the discussion which has been presented at the meeting. Obviously the reason for this is to give a larger number of people training in leadership." /54

Kansas "The Rural Life Association made out a yearly program last fall with program books for each member. This contained the list of officers and a planned program for each meeting. These meetings have been carried out about as planned and have been quite successful." /55

Louisiana "That rural young people can take the lead when given an opportunity has been clearly demonstrated by the 35 members of a young people's organization in the Slagle community.

"In order to acquaint the young folks with the aims and possibilities of such an organization, it was necessary for the agents to take the lead during the first three meetings, which were mostly recreational. Then the group was organized and has planned its own programs each month." /56

Included in the Iowa report was a mimeographed sheet distributed to young people's groups and entitled "Steps in Program Planning."

Iowa "1. Make a survey to determine interest of the group.
2. Appoint a program committee of from three to five members. (The vice president should be chairman of this committee.) 3. Arrange for committee to meet at least 1 month before the organization completes its year's work.

A. Work of the committee:

1. Secure blanks YP-12 for use in making rough outline of program.
2. Make list of talent which is available in the organization and in the community. (Use membership as much as possible on the program.)
3. List topics in which interest has been shown.
4. List help and materials available from various agencies such as schools, extension service, and others.
5. Outline program for year giving:
 - (a) Date of meeting.
 - (b) Place.
 - (c) Time meeting will be called to order.
 - (d) Program features such as current events, group singing, etc.
 - (e) Names of committee members in charge of programs.
 - (f) Names of committees members in charge of refreshments.

/54 C. L. Beatty, Richland County agricultural agent.

/55 Ruth K. Huff, Pratt County home demonstration agent.

/56 Leonard Murrell, Vernon County assistant agricultural agent.

6. Arrange for printing or mimeographing program in a yearbook form." /57

Ohio "Newly organized groups are requesting recreation and leadership training as a foundation for future program activities. The conclusions we have reached in assisting this group are:

1. The group must become acquainted with each other.
2. They require some activity which all can engage in.
3. Potential leadership must be discovered and developed in the groups.
4. Requests to assist in programs vary greatly.
5. To reach the greatest number and to be most helpful, outlines for studying various subjects should be prepared and placed in the hands of the various program committees.
6. More information on program building and resources for programs should be gathered from the various groups and made available to all counties.
7. More individuals should be included in these programs. This can only be done by the present leadership becoming community leadership." /58

TYPES OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

The 207 members of young people's groups who replied to a mailed questionnaire in Iowa showed preference for a program that included 40 percent educational, 35 percent social, and 25 percent service activities. The same classification is used in presenting the various types of program material. In addition excerpts on individual projects, tours and trips, youth extension schools, youth camps, and youth conferences are included.

A typical meeting of a group of rural young people has a varied program that usually includes a business meeting, a period for presentation of educational material, and a period for recreation or entertainment. The educational material may be presented by discussion, demonstration, a talk or debate, or a combination of these and other methods.

General Educational Material

New Hampshire

"The recommended procedure is for the vice president to name two or more members to constitute the educational program committee of which the vice president is chairman.

Using the circular 'Educational Program Suggestions' and with other suggestions available to, and made by, the committee, programs are planned for the monthly meetings.

/57 See footnote 11.

/58 R. B. Tom, rural-sociology specialist.

"Among some of the commonly used topics during the year were the following: Etiquette; what constitutes a pleasing personality; child care; procedure of a law suit; common types of insurance; marketing agricultural products; poultry management; experience at Little America; causes of crime and plans for crime prevention by youth; arts and crafts, hobbies, landscape practices around the home; and talks on Farm Bureau work by officers of the State Federation." /59

Arkansas "This year we have had an enrollment of 128 young men and women between the ages of 18 to 25 years in the Junior Adult Clubs. The subjects selected for these clubs had to do with types of land, study of soils, specific crops essential to profitable returns to operator of farm and to the land. The topics of the study programs at the semimonthly and monthly programs have included: (1) Types of farm areas; (2) individual farm set-ups; (3) soils and soil management; (4) farmstead planning; (5) combination of farm enterprises; (6) farm accounts; (7) enterprise requirements; (8) home accounts; (9) budgeting expenditures; (10) home management; (11) farm credit; (12) selecting and buying a farm; (13) market outlets and methods of marketing; (14) cooperative buying; (15) family relationships; (16) community-wide activities; (17) farm and community industries; (18) National and State policies.

"These lessons were studied by both young men and young women in order that it might be realized that the operations of the farm and home are operations of the homestead, and that the homestead is a single unit". /60

Pennsylvania "Discussions, demonstrations, and social programs were planned by the program committee. Ten meetings were held with a total attendance of 186. 'Home Beautification', 'Social Etiquette', 'Campfire Programs', 'Out of County Tour', 'Nature Study Hike', 'Value of Dramatics and What It Can Do for Us and Our Community', 'First Aid', and 'The Use of Money', were some of the subjects used for group meetings." /61

Connecticut "There were 51 young men and young women in the Hartford County Senior 4-H Club during the past year.

"The following are the subjects presented and discussed at the meeting:

Saving seconds and costing lives.	How to make parties more interesting.
Qualities desired in girl friends and in boy friends.	How to be well dressed.
Hints on taking photographs and snapshots.	The 1936 Hartford County 4-H club fair.
What makes a house a home.	Proper conduct at social affairs." /62

/59 S. W. Hoitt, assistant State club leader.

/60 Cora L. Coleman, Mississippi County home demonstration agent.

/61 Ella Reynolds, Union County home demonstration agent.

/62 Randolph W. Whaples, and Charlotte Gove, Hartford County club agents.

The report of Mabel Albrecht, home-demonstration agent in Montgomery County, Ill., includes a mimeographed program of the young people's organization. The discussion topics for young men are: What shall we buy as a substitute for corn? Advantages and disadvantages of some farm plans; and Crop and livestock plans of some successful farms. Those for young women are: Grooming, etiquette, and conversation. Those used for joint meetings of young men and young women are: Desirable characteristics of a friend; Courtesies I expect on a date; and Parliamentary procedure.

Wisconsin

"Two young men's groups were organized in the county, one at Anston and another at Depere. Prof. William

Mortenson assisted with organizing the groups and attended practically every meeting throughout the winter months. At the first meeting the question, 'Do I want to be a farmer?', was taken up. This brought out much discussion. Following this a discussion on 'If I don't want to be a farmer, what avenues of work are open to me?' was held. A discussion on various other occupations was gone into. Following this meeting several meetings were held on various farm questions.

"I. F. Hall, farm-management specialist, of the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, assisted in conducting two meetings. At these meetings methods for the success of farming were pointed out. Among these factors were, 'A good dairy herd', 'Productive acres', 'The growing of alfalfa or other legume hay', and 'Diversification.'

"John Barton, who formerly taught at the People's University, Denmark (Europe), conducted two meetings on farm cooperation and the future of co-operatives in America.

"V. I. Kivlin, of the Wisconsin Short Course in Agriculture, met with both groups and discussed the matter of young men attending the Wisconsin Short Course. As a result of his meeting with these groups, seven young men from Brown County are planning to attend the short course starting November 15, 1936./63

New York

"The 1936-37 program for the Junior Home Bureau includes Insurance, Room arrangement, Room accessories, Preparation for marriage, Dramatics, Family finance, and Grooming.

The Preparation for marriage, Family finance, and Insurance were joint projects of the boys' and girls' groups. The girls were the guests of the boys at a poultry dressing demonstration following one of their meetings."/64

Educational Topics Presented by Discussion Method

Illinois

"For presenting the so-called educational part of the program, discussion is the method most frequently used.

Fifty counties have used this method of presenting material at one or more meetings. Perhaps half of the counties arrange for assistance of the leader."/65

/63 J. N. Kavanaugh, Brown County agricultural agent.

/64 Ethel D. Wallace, Chemung County home demonstration agent.

/65 See footnote 36.

South Dakota "The membership of the Progressive Americans of Bon Homme County is small, only about 30, but they have always carried out a well-planned program diversified according to the interests of the members. They have held discussions on such topics as choosing a vocation, the Great Plains shelterbelt, good literature, and operas." /66

Massachusetts "Prof. John S. Warbeke, professor of philosophy, at Mount Holyoke College, led a discussion group in 'Happiness - How to obtain and hold it.' He devoted one-half hour to talk on his ideas of what constituted real happiness. The group (Hampden County 4-H Service Club) was then divided into three sections with Camille DuBois, of Holyoke; Roger Burgess, of Fairview; and George Hartley, of Wyben acting as discussion leaders. The response to this was gratifying. There were very few who had nothing to say. Professor Warbeke went from group to group with a smile of great satisfaction in seeing the response. The group then met again with Professor Warbeke where some of the points were summarized." /67

Rhode Island "The discussions were incidental to the doing part of the entire program. The members were so engrossed with marketing, meal planning, and food preparation that they did not realize these were the best possible settings for discussions until they looked back for their reports." /68

Surveys of Youth Interest in Educational Program

Virginia "The results of a questionnaire received from 19 counties having clubs with young people present some interesting data.

"Topics with most appeal.

1. Personality development.
2. Recreation.
3. Handicraft.
4. Nature lore.

"Topics failing to appeal.

1. Food and nutrition and home management.
2. Citizenship.
3. Book reviews." /69

/66 H. M. Jones, State club leader, and others.

/67 W. R. Walker, Hampden County club agent, and others.

/68 Dorothea M. Hoxie, Bristol County club agent.

/69 Hallie L. Hughes, State girls' club leader.

Illinois "The type of material that has been prepared shows in general the subjects studied. The material distributed is as follows:

Material Prepared and Used by Rural Youth Groups

	No. of counties using material
<u>Recreational interests.</u>	
Drama production.....	33
An evening's etiquette.....	8
Foundation for folk games.....	4
Interesting spare-time hobbies.....	3
Folk dances and games.....	3
The outdoor home.....	1
<u>Vocational interests.</u>	
Do young people on farms earn their keep?.....	8
What does it cost to start to equip a farm home?.....	7
Know your farm.....	5
What does it cost to start farming on a 160-acre farm?...	3
Can farmers have a higher standard of living?.....	1
Would I choose farming as my life's work?.....	1
Harmonious house.....	1
Some ways to improve the farmstead.....	1
Thirty slaves or one.....	1
<u>Historical - geographical.</u>	
Know Illinois.....	19
<u>Social-civic interests.</u>	
Characteristics of desirable friends.....	13
Making the most of social events.....	7
You at your best.....	6
The Russell and Maxwell families.....	6
Community builders and wreckers.....	1
Characteristics of a desirable farm community.....	1"/70

New York "In order to serve as a guide in formulating a program of extension work with young farmers, a check sheet was prepared on which they might indicate their interest. This check sheet contained 36 items under nine different headings. After each of the items the young farmers could check their degree of interest, showing none, little, or much.

/70 H. W. Mumford, extension director.

"Various agencies in the State cooperated in presenting this check sheet for the young farmers. They were young men on farms, out of school, who had shown some interest in further study of farming. Agencies cooperating in this study were teachers of vocational agriculture, 4-H club agents, county agricultural agents, and teachers of classes of winter course students at Cornell.

"In interpreting the results obtained it should be remembered that this study is of a group of young men who are better than average, and that they have already demonstrated their interest in further study by attending short courses, doing 4-H work, or taking part in extension activities.

"In the study of the grouping of interests of these young men, Acquiring Farm Skills is the first and well above all of the others in the degree of interest shown. Self-Improvement, Managing a Farm Business, Civic Interests rank significantly higher than the rest. Choosing a Vocation ranked low and considerably below all of the rest in the degree of interest shown. It is assumed that most of these young men had at least tentatively chosen farming as their vocation.

"The ranking of the interests of 189 young farmers.

1. Getting better training for a happy and useful life.
2. Finding out how to meet people more pleasantly.
3. Learning how to get better crop yields.
4. Learning the advantages and disadvantages of farming.
5. Improving the standards of living in the community.
6. Operating farm machinery.
7. Learning why there is so much Government aid to agriculture.
8. Finding why some farmers succeed while others fail.
9. Keeping farm records.
10. Judging livestock.
11. Finding how to finance a farm business on limited capital.
12. Checking my ideas with others on farm problems.
13. Studying the farming outlook.
14. Beautifying lawn and home.
15. Learning the purposes and functions of the Farm Bureau.
16. Understanding how local government operates.
17. Learning about successful father and son partnerships.
18. Taking useful part in group meetings.
19. Saving enough money to start farming.
20. Finding out how milk is marketed cooperatively.
21. Learning how to dance better.
22. Knowing more about church and religious affairs.
23. Helping plan parties with plenty of games and fun.
24. Comparing poultry farming with dairy farming.
25. Comparing office, factory, public, and farm occupations.
26. Learning to sing or to play a musical instrument.
27. Learning about political parties.
28. Understanding the essentials of happy married life.
29. Discussing how much money needed to get married.

30. Making community surveys and studies.
31. Doing Grange work.
32. Budgeting the expenses of housekeeping.
33. Becoming a 4-H club leader.
34. Renting a good farm.
35. Getting a job as hired man on a good farm.
36. Finding a job in the city." /71

Minnesota

The Minnesota report uses the question-answer type of presentation in discussing the education program and its problems.

Question. - "Are young folks interested in the educational part of the program?" Answer. - "In a survey made among 1,200 young men and women the question was asked as to the type of an organization they would be interested in. The following information was received: 80 percent educational and social; 11 percent educational; 6 percent social, and 3 percent not interested."

Question. - "Will young people accept a program planned by adults with the same attitude and satisfaction as from one they plan themselves?" Answer. - "Members have definitely expressed the desire to assist in the planning of their program built around the interest of the group."

Question. - "How long can the interest be held on a given topic?" Answer. - "As most of the groups are not well acquainted and the interests vary, not more than three meetings on a given topic have been suggested unless there have been special requests by the group."

Question. - "Can the members lead their own discussions?" Answer. - "Young folks expressed the desire of taking part in the leadership of their meetings. In actual practice this is not too satisfactory due to the limited background the members have on most of the subjects. Then, too, it is very difficult to lead a discussion and accomplish the desired results. When some topics can be divided so a member can present a certain phase either as a short demonstration or report to be used as a basis for discussion, the results have been fairly satisfactory."

Question. - "How much time shall be spent on educational topics?" Answer. - "It is generally agreed that in order to have a balanced program and good discussion, not more than one hour should be spent." /72

Social and Recreational Activities

Indiana

"Newly organized groups choose topics with a strong social appeal for young people at the pre-mating age.

After a series of discussions on such topics they gradually turn to homemaking, agricultural, health, safety, and general civic problems." /73

/71 See footnote 49.

/72 See footnote 12.

/73 See footnote 48.

Minnesota "Perhaps the chief objective of the recreational part of the program is the fellowship and opportunity to take part in new types of activities with young folks having similar interests. Some of the various types of recreation which have been included in the program have been:

- (1) Social games - active, quiet, paper and pencil games, etc.
- (2) Music - group singing, music appreciation, individual participation for folks with special talent.
- (3) Dramatics - plays, skits, etc.
- (4) Athletics - kitten ball, volleyball, swimming, etc.
- (5) Handicraft.
- (6) Out-of-door meetings - hikes, treasure hunts, etc.
- (7) Folk dances.
- (8) Movies, film strips, etc." /74

New Hampshire "Most of the recreational programs have consisted of organized programs of active or quiet games. However, some more extensive programs have been held. These included a barn dance, featuring square dances and costumes representing the 'Gay 90's'; a mother's banquet which proved to be a good method of explaining the youth program to the parents; Halloween parties; maple sugaring parties; dances and winter sports meets." /75

Missouri "The farm young people of Lafayette County devoted the major part of their time during last summer to social activities, consisting of a dance, tennis, croquet, and soft ball. They have taken up dramatics for their fall and winter program." /76

Michigan "A definite program of recreation and entertainment is being provided for each meeting. In May the group held a dance at the Quincy Grange Hall. In addition to dancing, recreation in the form of shuffleboard and ping-pong was provided for those who did not dance." /77

Community Service

Minnesota "The Twentieth Century Pioneers in Faribault County reported the following activities: (1) Organized two new 4-H clubs; (2) served as junior leaders in several 4-H clubs; (3) assisted with program and recreation at annual achievement day party, 4-H club camp, and home-economics achievement day; (4) acted as chaperones for 4-H representatives at Junior Livestock Show; (5) served on committees for Farm Bureau picnic; (6) furnished part of the program at annual Farm Bureau program; (7) assisted in conducting county corn-husking contest; (8) acted as superintendents of all 4-H club departments at county fair." /78

/74 See footnote 12.

/75 See footnote 59.

/76 T. T. Martin, State club leader, and others.

/77 Gordon R. Schlubatis, Branch County agriculture agent.

/78 See footnote 12.

West Virginia "In Mercer County the Ta-Wa-Si group helped put out a monthly news letter and a year book for 4-H clubs. They sponsored a training school for club officers, helped with project work, assisted in conducting county camp, attended individual club meetings, and helped with Achievement Day programs." /79

Indiana "The Older Youth Club president was director of youth activities at the county fair. With the help of committees, and the club as a whole, popular activities including an evening program of a fashion revue of old costumes and an amateur contest; exhibits of old oddities of various types; free nursery for the care of babies; checking room; evening dances; and a miniature city exhibit were provided. Many of the young people were given an opportunity to find employment during the fair. The club had charge of an advance sale of fair tickets, of a popstand, and of the dances. A total of more than 80 dollars was realized through these activities. In addition, the young people are much better acquainted in the county.

"The president and members made a special effort to interest the urban public in the fair. The majority of amateur entries came from urban communities. The club was successful in endeavoring to remove a gap between city and rural folk. The membership and the enthusiasm of the club have both increased as a result of the contacts through the fair." /80

Individual Projects

New Hampshire "The majority of Youth Extension Club members selected regular 4-H projects for their personal project. Other members selected adaptations of the regular 4-H projects, and in some cases projects have been selected completely aside from the list of 16 projects offered members of regular 4-H clubs.

"Pasture improvement, keeping farm accounts, taking one of the Extension Service reading courses, first aid, life saving, knitting, and spinning, are examples of the adapted projects and special projects." /81

Kentucky "The largest Utopia enrollment is in the very popular project, landscaping, with 130 members; tobacco is next with 98 members; swine project and farm accounts are next for the young men with 51 and 42 respectively, while canning for the young women has been the most popular project with 54 members. The remainder of enrollment is very evenly distributed between clothing budget, dairy, farm engineering, sheep, baby beef, poultry, room improvement, small fruits, bees, permanent pasture, orchard and potatoes. New projects prepared during 1936 were canning and orchard. New projects in engineering are now being prepared for 1937." /82

/79 See footnote 26.

/80 Millicent Thatcher, Lake County home demonstration agent.

/81 See footnote 59.

/82 J. W. Whitehouse, State club agent, and C. W. Jones, assistant.

"Seven members enrolled in the canning project canned a total of 703 quarts during the year. Eleven Utopia boys raised 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres of burley tobacco estimated at 14,000 pounds. Three members carried Farm Shop as their project, with one member building a new shop and the others adding new equipment besides making a great deal of improvement in shop arrangement. One Utopia member fed 19 head of beef cattle as a project and two members raised 675 chickens, keeping complete records. Eight Utopia members were trained for the fat stock judging contest." /83

Trips and Tours

Missouri "Two tours in which 54 young people and their sponsors participated were conducted in the month of August. One tour in which 27 participated was taken in Kansas City and vicinity. On this trip the young people visited the municipal airport where they had the opportunity of going through a large transport plane; the Power and Light Building; the municipal auditorium; the automobile assembly plant, Union Station, and the Grange exchange.

"The second tour took another party of 27 young people to Jefferson City and Bagnell Dam. A visit to Algoa Farms on this trip brought to the attention of this group, in an entirely different manner than they expected, the work that is being done in penal institutions for young people. Also, many of them got their first view of their State Capitol and Bagnell Dam, structures of which most of them had little conception before the tour.

"The general reaction from the group which participated in these two tours was favorable toward their continuance. They felt that such tours, which brought the cost of the trip to a minimum, gave the local young people an opportunity to see things and places which, undoubtedly, most of them would not otherwise get to see. They felt that with a continuation of these tours the number of people they benefit will naturally increase because of the publicity which this year's tour received." /84

New Hampshire "In October 1936, two tours were arranged in different sections of the State. The combined attendance was 70. "The tour on October 22 was held in the northern section of the State. Some industries were included since there are not many agricultural processing or marketing establishments in this section. However, such a tour still has its advantages since many of the farm boys have little idea of the type of work and methods of manufacturing in the businesses included. In regard to this tour schedule, one man wrote: 'I believe there would be much greater cooperation between agriculture and industry if each knew some of the troubles of the other. I can think of no better way of bringing this about than the scheme which you are following. I, therefore, wish you the greatest success'." /85

/83 J. O. Horning, Barren County agricultural agent.

/84 J. E. Morris and assistant, Pettis County agricultural agents.

/85 See footnote 59.

Camps for Youth

Hawaii "Eighteen young women were delegates to the Junior Home Demonstration Club Camp held at Camp Naue, Haena, June 26, 27, and 28. Those invited and who attended this camp were the young women who are members of the Junior Home Demonstration Clubs, and also the members of the Home Demonstration Clubs.

"The camp opened Friday afternoon, the first meal served was supper, the camp was concluded Sunday afternoon with an assembly when the prizes were given out, and the girls went home at 3 o'clock. The members slept in huts, ate at the dining hall and used Wilcox Hall for recreation. A fee of \$1.25 was charged for each person; this was to pay for the foods, cooks, and camp fee, and the general expenses." /86

Iowa reports six 3-day district camps with a total attendance of 320. Three similar camps held in Minnesota were attended by 189 young people. Ohio reports a Young People's Institute at Camp Crag with an attendance of 64 and in addition three 2-day district camps one of which was attended by 135 delegates from 18 counties. In Indiana the extension service assisted with camps sponsored by the Farm Bureau.

Ohio "The camping program in Ohio, as a part of the Agricultural Extension Service, continuing its present trends will be a factor in the educational program of the State. In fact it can be as unique and as far-reaching as the Danish folk school. It can be a factor in helping rural people to realize more of the values of rural living. The teaching in the camp institute can be on a much different basis from our traditional school program. The camp situation has some real opportunities for creative thinking, creative living, and for a better appreciation of the outdoors." /87

Youth Conferences

Illinois, Iowa, New Hampshire, and Ohio report a series of district conferences for rural young people. The principal purpose of these was to develop and train the young people in various phases of leadership such as recreation, leading discussion, and planning programs.

A number of States, including Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois, report State-wide youth conferences. Some were held in conjunction with farmers' week and others as separate events. Virginia participated in out-of-State conferences.

Virginia "During the past year a tri-State youth conference was planned with West Virginia and Maryland and held at Harper's Ferry, May 8 and 9. Eighteen young men and women from all parts of the State attended this conference.

/86 See footnote 50.

/87 See footnote 58.

"Although considerable difficulty was experienced in arranging transportation for a large group from Virginia to Kalamazoo, Mich., arrangements were finally worked out for 15 young people from Virginia actually to attend the country life association and participate in that valuable program. Having had the country life meeting in Virginia in 1934, and having attended the Columbus meeting in 1935, the Harper's Ferry conference and the American Country Life Association both in 1936, we have developed here in the State a corps of young people who have had sufficient contact with people from other States and have gained enough from the conferences which they have attended to become outstanding leaders of youth activities in Virginia." /88

Youth Schools

Iowa "Educational short courses were planned with 11 counties, 10 of which had rural young people's organizations. In one county (Hancock), where there was no young people's group meeting, a short course was arranged to determine its value in stimulating interest in an organization.

"The short courses were not confined to members of the groups but all interested rural young people were invited. Those planning to attend were required to register in advance and pay a fee of 50 cents to 1 dollar to defray expenses in connection with the short courses." /89

Additional information about Iowa extension schools for rural young people is published in the October 1937, issue of the Extension Service Review, Page 149.

New Hampshire "The sixth annual Youth Institute was held at the University, for 6 days, June 21-26. Nine major courses were offered and six minor courses. Each one who enrolled took one major course and one minor course. Two periods of 1½ hours were spent each day on the major course and 45 minutes each day were devoted to the minor course.

"Two assemblies were held each day. In addition to singing and announcements, the morning assembly featured a 30-minute talk on some phase of leadership.

"Following the talk, the assembly was divided into six discussion groups: (1) Junior 4-H club leaders, 37 enrolled; (2) recreation leaders, 42 enrolled; (3) youth extension club officers, 15 enrolled; (4) young farmers, 14 enrolled; (5) vocation seekers, 28 enrolled; and (6) camp councillors, 27 enrolled.

"Each group met for 45 minutes and discussed the talk given at the morning assembly insofar as it could be applied to their group interest.

/88 See footnote 15.

/89 See footnote 11.

"Enrollment was as follows:

Major courses

Agriculture.....	25
Home economics.....	23
First aid.....	9
Lifesaving.....	21
Recreation leadership...	24
Dramatics.....	36
Song lead. (Beg.).....	5
Song lead. (Adv.).....	6
Orchestra.....	14

Minor courses

Agriculture.....	6
Home economics.....	19
First aid.....	41
Recreation leadership...	46
Song leadership.....	28
Personal contacts.....	21"/90

PUBLICATIONS FOR YOUTH

News circulars to all members or to the officers of youth groups were used in 1936 by Iowa "Over the State", Minnesota "Gopher Pioneer Rouser", and New Hampshire. Many States issued brief mimeographs to assist groups in planning their programs.

Iowa inaugurated a "discussion series" to assist groups in that phase of their program. The subjects prepared in 1936 were Farmers' organization; World peace and international relations; and Government. Each circular included Suggestions for conducting discussions, Outlines of procedure, Suggestive questions, and a brief Bibliography on the topic. A pocket library including some of the references suggested was organized and made available on a loan basis to the youth groups.

A number of States secured the cooperation of subject-matter specialists in preparing a wide variety of mimeograph materials especially adapted for use by youth groups.

New York "Mr. Entorf prepared discussion materials for use in young people's groups, and in collaboration with Dr. Rockwood wrote a study outline entitled The Social Life of Young Men and Young Women. This outline was submitted to several young people for criticism and suggestion. One 4-H club is using the outline, and individual copies have been requested by several agents. One adult group also asked if they might study the outline as a means of arriving at a better understanding of young people.

"In consultation with other members of the Family Life Department, Mr. Entorf prepared tentative outlines on 'Choice of a mate', and 'Preparation for marriage.' These outlines are still in rough draft. One group in Nassau County is testing out the former.

/90 See footnote 59.

"Mrs. Rockwood prepared four brief outlines for two groups of young women in Orleans County. The topics they wished to consider were: Social usage and behavior, Boy-girl friendships, Living together in the family, and Sex education. She also has compiled a bibliography entitled Selected References on Social and Family Relationships of Young People." /91

SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

Illinois "From a consideration of the activities being carried on in the State, the following observations may be made:

1. Among young people above 4-H club age, out of school, and not yet established in homemaking or in business for themselves, we may expect to find a variety of interests.
2. Membership in groups will continue to be mobile. When members marry and establish homes for themselves they probably will not retain their interest in a program planned particularly for the unmarried group.
3. Recreation and ways of becoming acquainted are of first interest in all groups. Apparently these needs are met satisfactorily in large mixed groups meeting on a county-wide basis.
4. Mixed groups also are satisfactory for carrying on such activities as those represented by music and drama tournaments, for discussing general issues of concern to farm people, and for forwarding projects in which young men and young women both participate.
5. Groups which satisfactorily carry on study of subject matter in agriculture or home economics usually are smaller than county-wide groups. They may be made up of young men only, young women only, or may be mixed groups, depending upon the nature of the subject matter studied. The basis of such groups will be a common interest in the material to be considered.
6. As the young people gain experience in directing their own groups and become better acquainted, there probably will be more demands for individual and group projects that provide information in agriculture and home economics and in related fields. Already there is apparent a tendency for programs that started with social features only, to include discussions involving an exchange of ideas and presentation of new information.
7. When study of such information is attempted, there may be a shift from monthly county-wide meetings of large groups to smaller local

/91 Margaret Wylie, and Lemo D. Rockwood, family-life specialists.

or special interest groups. County-wide meetings will continue to have a place of major importance in the program." /92

"Evidence thus far points to three facts:

South Carolina

1. Rural young people 16 through 25 years of age desire both young men and young women in their organization.
2. They prefer night meetings to day meetings.
3. They prefer that meetings be held in their communities rather than in the county seat." /93

Iowa

"1. Programs of the groups must be strengthened on a three-point basis of education, recreation and service.

2. Short courses (1 week), music and drama tournaments, and debate meets should be further developed.
3. Summer camps offer an opportunity to stimulate discussion and to encourage planned recreation. The camps should be of longer duration, at least 3 days in length.
4. Service projects should be developed to a much greater extent.
5. Projects should be outlined which will provide additional income for young men and women on farms but which will not detract from the father's income.
6. More recreational help in training of leaders and in the preparation of material should be provided.
7. Further study should be given to ways and means of integrating rural youth into the adult program activities, particularly county planning.
8. Closer relationship should be worked out with the 4-H club department." /94

/92 See footnote 36.

/93 See footnote 9.

/94 See footnote 11.

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Organizations and Programs for Rural Young People

*Summary of the 1936 Annual Narrative Reports of
State and County Extension Workers,
Including Many Excerpts*

Barnard D. Joy



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